

21st October 1927]

Questions 761 to 770 were held over until the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government came into the House.

(For further supplementary questions on this question, please see pages 340-342 infra.)

Qs. 762 to 770.—Please see pages 342-350 infra.

Civil Justice

Abolition of imprisonment for debt.

* 771 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the question of the abolition of imprisonment for debt has been under the consideration of Government;

(b) whether the question was originated by the Madras Government or by the Government of India;

(c) in what stage that question is at present;

(d) whether the High Court has been consulted in the matter; and

(e) whether the Government have ascertained how this form of enforcing payment of debt has been dealt with in England and other European countries and in America and in other civilized countries and if so, whether they will be pleased to place the materials collected by them on the table?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Madras Government.

(c) It has been decided that the question of abolishing imprisonment for debt need not be pursued further now.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Government have obtained some information regarding the law prevailing in England and America. Some of the materials collected have already been placed on the Editors' Table with G.O. No. 792, Home (Judicial), dated 3rd April 1918.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask, with reference to the answer to clause (c) of this question, why the Government has decided that the question of abolition of imprisonment for debt need not be pursued further now?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"That is a question which cannot be answered in a short statement. I must ask for notice."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (d) of this question, may I ask what was the opinion of the High Court on this matter?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"I must ask for notice."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"With reference to the answer given to clause (e), may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether in view of the fact that none of us were in this Council when this old Government Order was placed on the table the same will be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—"Yes."